February 24, 1976

Secondly, let me tell you in the last two years if we had not been in session, in regular session, we'd have been here in special session. You know everybody ought to have some experience once and that's the experience of a special session. Mother, I've had my one. I don't want anymore. You talk about chaos, disorganization, whatever you try to do, that last special session was like a junior-senior prom without the girls. I don't want anymore of that. We would have been here in special session for special education, we would have been in on mental retardation, we would have been here, there and the other. Everytime we come in under those conditions we come in with business suits on and go out with clown suits on. That's exactly what happened to us. I think the present system works. Sometimes I don't like, sometimes I want to move down to get to what I'm interested in, but the Legislature is not always interested in what I am and conversely not interested in what 49 other people are. I am not disappointed with the system.

SPEAKER: Your ten minutes are up.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: My last remark is you know who doesn't like the annual sessions, you know who doesn't like it? The departments and the bureaucrats because we're watching them for a change.

SPEAKER: Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. I'm totally opposed to this proposed amendment.

Now we're being blunt this morning. I think it makes no sense whatsoever when you come out of a horse and buggy age into a society where everybody else has an automobile and because you have to pay the cost of gas you say I want to go back to the old days of the horse. You didn't have to worry about red lights, you didn't have to worry about turning right on red, you didn't have to worry about traffic tickets, speed limits or anything. But you're ignoring the fact that you don't exist in a vacuum, everybody else is still riding in an automobile.

Some of us fail to pay attention to the nature of the Legislature because we don't turn an eye toward history and we don't understand the development of institutions that exist in this country. You cannot take a thing.... Now the Legislature didn't spring into existence in 1976. The Legislature and the concept of the Legislature has built up over many, many generations. If you take it back into England over a period of centuries how are you going to disregard everything that lead up to a certain point and expect no repercussions or no dislocations in a society?

Everytime Nebraska takes a step forward somebody is there to say "Take two steps back because I'm not familiar with what is new. My mind is old and tired. I can't keep up the pace so, rather then get on out of the way and let natures natural process of growth and progression operate, I want to slow things down to my old, tired blood level". Well they have Geritol, they have Serutan, they have all of natures remedies. I'm shocked that Senator Mahoney, after the way that he talked to me about being upset with